

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (original) A stent/graft assembly comprising a substantially tubular graft having opposite first and second ends and a substantially tubular stent having opposite first and second ends, said first end of said stent being connected in substantially end-to-end relationship with said first end of said tubular graft, said assembly having a pre-deployment orientation such that said second ends of said graft and said stent extend in opposite directions from the substantially end-to-end connection between said graft and said stent, said assembly further having a post-deployment orientation so that said second ends of said graft and said stent extend in a common direction from the substantially end-to-end connection between said graft and said stent.

2. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said graft has first and second opposite peripheral surfaces extending between said first and second ends, the graft being oriented such that said first surface faces outwardly in said pre-deployment orientation of said assembly and such that said first surface of said graft faces inwardly in the post-deployment orientation of said assembly.

3. (original) The assembly of claim 2, wherein at least a portion of said first peripheral surface of said graft is in substantially face-to-face engagement with an outer circumferential surface of said stent in said post-deployment orientation of said assembly.

4. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the second end of said graft extends axially beyond the second end of said stent in said post-deployment orientation of said assembly.

5. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein said second end of said stent extends axially beyond said second end of said graft in said post-deployment orientation of said assembly.

6. (original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the substantially end-to-end connection of said first end of said stent with said first end of said graft define a small axial space between said first ends of said graft and said stent when said assembly is in said pre-deployment orientation, and wherein the first end of said stent extends axially beyond said first end of said graft when said assembly is in said post-deployment orientation.

7. (currently amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the graft is a bifurcated graft such that said second end of said graft defines first and second legs, ~~said second leg being folded interiorly of said first leg in said pre-deployment orientation of said assembly.~~